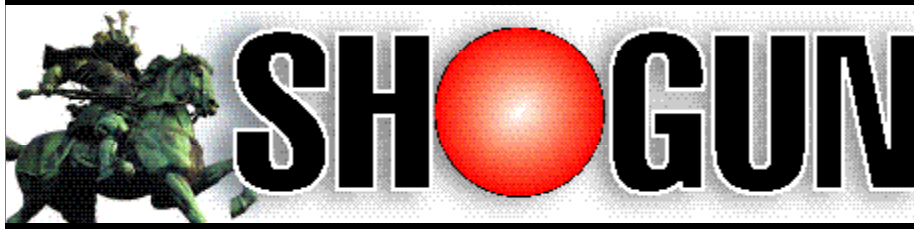


MONTHLY SORTIE GOALS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 141st Airborne Air Control Squadron | |
| Monthly flying-hour contract | 55.9 |
| Hours flown | 79.2 |
| Monthly offset | 23.3 |
| 109th Air Refueling Squadron | |
| Monthly flying-hour contract | 178.0 |
| Hours flown | 149.7 |
| Monthly offset | -28.3 |
| 67th Fighter Squadron | |
| Monthly sortie contract | 341.8 |
| Sorties flown | 270.9 |
| Monthly offset | -70.9 |
| 44th Fighter Squadron | |
| Monthly sortie contract | 122.7 |
| Sorties flown | 145.1 |
| Monthly offset | 42.4 |
| 33rd Rescue Squadron | |
| Monthly flying-hour contract | 100.0 |
| Hours flown | 132.3 |
| Monthly offset | 32.3 |

Source: 18th MOS/MXCOOP, as of Jan. 15

THE KADENA

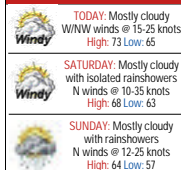


Vol. 21, No. 2

Kadena Air Base, Japan

Friday, Jan. 20, 2006

WEEKEND WEATHER



TODAY: Mostly cloudy
WINW winds @ 15-25 knots
High: 73 Low: 65
SATURDAY: Mostly cloudy
with isolated rainshowers
N winds @ 10-35 knots
High: 68 Low: 63
SUNDAY: Mostly cloudy
with rainshowers
N winds @ 12-25 knots
High: 64 Low: 57
FRIDAY MORNING'S
COMMUNITYBANK
EXCHANGERATES
BUYING: \$1-#113 SELLING: #119-\$1

Okinawa weighs big in off-base utility cost survey

By Master Sgt. Adam Johnston
18th Wing Public Affairs

The future of utility pay allowances across Japan lie on the shoulders of military members stationed on Okinawa, a Kadena finance official said Wednesday.

Throughout January, military members living off-base are asked to complete an on-line survey to tally the monthly costs for electricity, water and heating fuel in off-base homes and apartments. Monthly costs of bottled water used for drinking are also being requested.

The survey is fielded by the Defense Department's Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee. The committee is responsible for setting a variety of pay allowances in the Department of Defense.

"Okinawa has a large number of people who live off base, with 3,538 families," said 1st Lt. David Osterhaus of the 18th Comptroller Squadron. "This is the largest locality in Japan by far which means that this survey has the biggest impact on the service

member here on Okinawa."

As of Tuesday about 850 off-base residents – or 24 percent – in Okinawa had completed the survey, Lieutenant Osterhaus said. "We have less than two weeks left to complete this survey and we need to finish strong."

Only military members and their families who live off base are being asked to complete the survey by Jan. 30. Defense Department civilian employees who live off-base are not eligible to complete the survey, according to Army Lt. Col. Loren Darmofal, financial management officer for U.S. Forces Japan.

Nearly \$93.5 million in utility and recurring maintenance allowances are paid by the Defense Department annually to military members world-

wide to defray expenses paid directly to utility companies. The stipend is designed to cover 80 percent of a military member's reported off-base utility expenses. The average annual payment is about \$2,125 per typical family, but officials acknowledge that currency fluctuations do impact the annual stipend.

"It's kind of like voting," said Colonel Darmofal. "This is each servicemember's opportunity to let the per diem committee know what their actual utility costs are for living off base. If everyone answers the survey based upon their bills, it'll give the committee a better read on what it costs to live off base in Japan."

Colonel Darmofal said the off-base utility survey is similar to other finance-based surveys, like the cost of

living allowance survey, the living pattern survey or the market basket survey.

Lieutenant Osterhaus said the results of the utility survey may have an effect on how much allowances will be paid to service members in the future. "That's why it's important that we give as much participation as possible," he said.

"The basic purpose of this survey is to give feedback to the per diem committee to show them what the actual costs are in Japan," Colonel Darmofal said, "so they can set rates for service members living off base comparable to those living in the U.S."

As of Wednesday, more than 26 percent of the 8,595 eligible off-base military residents nationwide had responded to the 2006 Overseas Housing Allowance Utility and Recurring Maintenance Survey.

"We're making good progress," Colonel Darmofal said. "Almost 1,200 people completed the survey this week alone. Hopefully we can continue this trend over the next few weeks."

Place your 'vote'

Residents who live off-base are asked to complete the survey by Jan. 30 at the following link: <https://www.perdiem.osd.mil/oha/utility>. Officials say the survey takes about 30 minutes to complete.

Kadena's environmental health goes under microscope Monday

By Capt. Gerardo Gonzalez
18th Wing Public Affairs

Team Kadena members have been dotting their T's and crossing their T's preparing for the assessment of a program designed to promote a safe workplace and good environmental stewardship.

Kadena's Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program—or ESO-HCAMP—goes under the microscope Monday as Pacific Air Forces evaluators begin a 4-day inspection here.

"We look forward to this assessment," said Ainun Qazi, 718th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental flight chief. "This will help us identify any ESOH issue that needs to be corrected."

The environmental flight has worked closely with Kadena units to prepare for the evaluation, said Mr. Qazi.

Last January, the civil engineers initiated a self-inspection and distributed checklists to help units take a close look at how well they manage hazardous

materials.

"Tiger Teams went out to all shops to identify potential problems and help fix them," said Mr. Qazi. "We're very proud of the work done by all units."

Some units have progressed far.

"Our findings here decreased by about 60 to 70 percent," said Master Sgt. Charlie Turner, 18th Maintenance Group unit environmental coordinator—UEC. "Our quarterly self-inspection has helped a lot."

A 31-member team of experts from PACAF will look for compliance with local, Air Force and Japanese regulations and laws, said Mr. Qazi.

"Evaluators will visit shops, tour sites, and interview personnel throughout the base to determine if we are executing our mission according to these laws and Air Force instructions," he said. "All organizations on Kadena are susceptible to being inspected."

The success of each organization rests on the shoulders of its UECs, said Mr. Qazi. UECs guide and assist units in preparing for an assessment...and

they've stepped up their efforts in the past year.

But others can help as well.

Every base resident can contribute, particularly in the area of solid waste, said the flight chief.

"I encourage everyone to check their refuse enclosure carefully," he said. "Make sure lids are on dumpsters and there is no litter outside the containers."

Base residents can also help by separating recyclables and setting them out on the correct pickup dates, said Mr. Qazi. Hazardous waste—such as batteries, tires, and household chemicals—should be kept out of dumpsters and disposed of properly.

Continued support from base organizations and residents can positively impact the assessment outcome, said Mr. Qazi.

"We consider this a team effort that will help the 18th Wing ensure base compliance and prove to others, especially the local community, that we are good environmental stewards," he said.

Time to stock up



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Chyrece Campbell
Staff Sgt. Dwayne James, 18th Communications Squadron, buys Girl Scouts cookies from (left to right) Girl Scouts Kala Allen(sitting), 12, Olivia Deffner, 13, Priscilla Lake (sitting), 11, Aubrey Marsh, 11, and Brownie Natalie GaNun, 6. Girl Scouts are currently selling cookies at high-traffic areas throughout Kadena on the weekends.

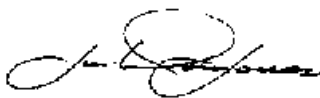
Brig. Gen. Jouas departs after final flight, see pages 2-3

SAYONARA, TEAM KADENA

Base commander bids farewell to 18th Wing

Today marks my last day as the commander of the biggest and best wing in our Air Force, and as Mari-on and I prepare to head out on the Patriot Express tomorrow, there is only one thought that comes to mind: THANK YOU. Thank you to all the members of Team Kadena – our wing, our associate units, our families, civilian and local national employees – for all you do every day to keep our Air Force, nation, and alliance strong. Here, on the leading edge of PACAF, our forward based presence provides stability to this most important region and defends the most crucial ally our nation has in the 21st century–Japan. Your efforts, sacrifices, deployments, and determination to be the very best make Kadena the pride of the Air Force and the envy of all others. "Excellence in all we do" is more than a core value at Kadena, it's our standard for all

we do, every day, to make sure we are ready to answer our nation's call – anytime and anyplace. Our resolve and readiness sends a clear message to those who depend on us for their security and freedom, as well as to those who would challenge us or our alliance. This is, and must continue to be, the hallmark of this great wing and Team Kadena – and I know it will always be so. Be proud of who you are and what you do each day for our country, our families, and our future – you are making a difference. For that I thank you, always.



Jan-Marc Jouas, Brig Gen, USAF
SHOGUN ONE



ACTION LINE

E-mail: 18wg.cchotline@kadena.af.mil

The 18th Wing is very interested in ideas that can make Kadena an even better place to live, work and play. If you have a concern that you have been unable to resolve through normal chains of command, then we'll look into it. Although not required, it's better to give commanders, first sergeants or the agencies with which you have the concern the opportunity to correct the situation first. When that fails, send us an e-mail. Include your name and telephone number so someone can get back to you, and a brief summary of your concern.

An alternate solution?

I've been stationed at Kadena for about four years and have noticed a trend in alcohol-related incidents. When I first arrived on station, if someone within a squadron had a DUI or DWI – the entire squadron had to wear their service dress uniform at the crack of dawn on Saturday morning. I didn't particularly enjoy it, but it helped get the message across.

Also, the Marine commander once implemented a dry base policy. All Marines were barred from purchasing any alcoholic beverages regardless of rank at any base facilities. I personally think it is time to implement this at Kadena. I know that some commanders do it to our dorm residents, but they are not the only individuals getting in trouble.

I myself drink on occasion and prior to entering the service I was also the culprit to many of these types of incidents. This shouldn't be a permanent measure – just a temporary way to get the message across. I think that everyone on

this base needs to realize that they all signed on the dotted line and if they can't uphold to it, then they should leave.

I share your concern about alcohol-related incidents, and I appreciate your input. With regard to unit-wide punishment, I leave that up to our squadron commanders. Our intent has been to focus on individual accountability and responsibility, as illustrated by our liberty card program and Z-Z-1-3. The goal is to provide a means by which our Airmen can regulate their own use of alcohol before it becomes a problem. And while I agree that there may be a time when a dry policy is appropriate, at this point we're not seeking to punish the entire base population for the foolishness of a few. We are instead seeking to change the culture in our Air Force that often accepts excessive drinking. If you have any questions about our programs, or the Alcohol Task Force, please contact Maj. Tony Anaya, the Alcohol Task Force Chairman, at 634-8499. Thanks.

**Don't drink
& drive**
It has been...
4 days
since the last DUI arrest on Kadena.
60 days = 18th Wing 'Down Day'

THE KADENA SHOGUN

18th Wing Commander.....Brig Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas
Public Affairs Chief.....Lt. Col. Michael Paoli
Deputy Public Affairs Chief.....Capt. Carlos Diaz
PA Superintendent.....Senior Master Sgt. Ken Fidler

Kadena Air Base Editorial Staff

Internal Information Chief.....Capt. Gerardo Gonzalez
Internal Information NCOIC.....MSgt. Adam Johnston
Shogun editor.....Staff Sgt. Jason Lake
Staff photographer.....Staff Sgt. Chyrece Campbell

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For editorial submissions, send E-mail to kadenashogun.news@kadena.af.mil.

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SHOGUN WARRIORS OF THE WEEK

Editor's note : Shogun Warriors are selected by unit leaders for their outstanding value to their unit and dedication to the Kadena mission. To nominate someone, send the name of your nominee to your unit commander or senior enlisted leaders.



Senior Airman Cara-Carissa Hall
Unit: 18th Medical Operations Squadron
Hometown: Newark, Calif.
Reason for nomination: As a member of the only joint Air Force and Navy neonatal intensive care unit with a critical care transport team, Airman Hall was the lead medic on two transport missions providing more than 230 patient care hours.
Time at Kadena: 2 years



Staff Sgt. LaShawnda Robinson
Unit: 18th Comptroller Squadron
Hometown: Cocoa, Fla.
Reason for nomination: Sergeant Robinson showed superb dedication to her unit mission and ensured the 18th Wing's fiscal year-end unfunded priorities were executed.
Time at Kadena: 1 year

**This week in
18th Wing History**
On Jan. 24, 1947, four members of the 67th Fighter Squadron flew their P-80 Shooting Star jets 759 miles across the ocean from the Philippines to Okinawa. Averaging a speed of 450-miles-per-hour, the pilots completed the first recorded jet flight over water in less than two hours.



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Sheila deVera

Final flight

Brig. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, 18th Wing commander, grimaces as he tries to wrestle a fire hose away from other wing leaders during a hose down after his final flight with the 18th Wing Thursday. A fini-flight traditionally includes a hosing down of a pilot after their last flight with a unit. The 5th Air Force commander, Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright, awarded the Legion of Merit Medal to General Jouas today before a base audience in the Keystone Theater for the wing commander's leadership of the 18th Wing and his significant contributions to the U.S.-Japan Alliance. General Jouas departs tomorrow to Lackland Air Force Base, near San Antonio, Texas, where he'll assume his new duties as the vice commander, Air Intelligence Agency.

Kadena F-15 Eagle crashes into sea

An F-15C Eagle from the 44th Fighter Squadron crashed at approximately 10 a.m. Tuesday during an air-to-air training mission. The pilot ejected safely from the aircraft.

The location of the crash site was in an area known as W-173, an over-water training zone about 65 miles northeast of Kadena.

The fighter jet was part of a four-ship F-15 formation that took off from Kadena at approximately 9:30 a.m. The other three F-15s returned safely to base.

Kadena E-3 Sentry (AWACS) and KC-135 Stratotanker crews remained in contact with the pilot, who was pulled from the water at approximately 10:50 a.m. by a search and rescue team from Kadena's 31st and 33rd Rescue Squadrons.

The pilot was in good condition and transported by an HH-60 Pave Hawk to the Camp Lester Naval Hospital on Okinawa. He was later released.

"We're thankful that our pilot made it through this safely," said Col. David Freaney, 18th Operations Group commander. "I appreciate the prompt, heroic actions of our rescue team, as well as the efforts of all other Kadena personnel who helped in various capacities during this mishap. I also appreciate the support of the Japan Air Self-Defense Force and the Japanese Coast Guard."

The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Compiled from staff reports

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE: Did you know? According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 16,694 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes—an average of one almost every half-hour. These deaths constituted approximately 39 percent of the 42,636 total traffic fatalities.

POWEROUTAGE: There will be power outages in the Washington Heights housing area Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

FSC OPEN HOUSE: The Kadena Family Support Center will host an open house today from noon to 4:30 p.m. in Bldg. 99. Join the staff in welcoming the new year and check out the many services, classes and workshops the FSC offers. For more information, call 634-3366.

STREETCONSTRUCTION: Starting Monday, a section of Beeson Avenue in front of Amelia Earhart Intermediate School and Bob Hope Primary School will undergo construction. Normal traffic patterns and parking will be significantly affected until approximately the end of the school year.

DRAMAPRODUCTION: Kadena Middle School will host "The Best Haunted House Ever" Wednesday and Thursday from 7 to 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Tickets cost \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

DRAGONBOATVOLUNTEERS: Men and women are needed for

Looking ahead



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Chyrece Campbell

Chief Master Sgt. Clinton Camac (center), 18th Wing command chief, speaks with 56 Club members about upcoming events planned for 2006. The chief also stressed to the NCOs the importance of being Kadena's front-line supervisors.

teams that will participate in this year's Naha Dragon Boat Race scheduled for May 5. Volunteers must be Airmen, civilian employees or family members over the age of 18. Those interested may attend an initial meeting Jan. 27 at 3 p.m. in the 18th Medical Group's Shimabukuro Conference Room.

ASSUMPTIONOFCOMMAND: Brig. Gen. Harold W. Moulton II will assume command of the 18th Wing Jan. 31 at 8 a.m. in the 961st Airborne Air Control Squadron AWACS hangar, Bldg. 3660.

TAXCENTER: The Kadena Tax Center opens Jan. 31. Anyone interested in becoming a

unit tax advisor should contact Leslie Best at 634-7784 or Tech. Sgt. Angela Hill at 634-1025.

POSTALNOTICE: The Kadena Post Office will be closed Feb. 3 due to a scheduled power outage.

TRASH TIP: In base housing, trash and garbage exceeding trash can capacity must be placed in appropriate containers—plastic bags, bundles, etc.—and brought to the curbside on the morning of pick-up service.

FLUPREVENTION: Flu and colds are caused by viruses that infect the nose, throat and lungs. They are passed on

from person-to-person when infected people cough or sneeze. To prevent spreading of these germs, 18th Medical Group officials recommend the following:

- Cover mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing. Use a tissue when possible and dispose of it.
- Clean hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer after sneezing or coughing.
- Wash hands often with soap and warm water for 15 to 20 seconds. The soap combined with scrubbing action helps dislodge and remove germs.

LOSTANDFOUND: The 18th Security Forces Squadron is currently maintaining items of lost and found property, such as bicycles, billfolds, keys and watches. To claim lost items, call Security Forces Investigations at 634-4643, Monday through Friday, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

WATERCONSERVATION: Okinawa's water supply depends heavily on rainfall. Residents are requested to conserve water daily. Water may be rationed due to limited supply.

BIBLE STUDY: Protestant Women of the Chapel Winter Bible Study sessions run every Tuesday until April 4. Bible Studies are held from 9 to 11 a.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Kadena Chapel 1. All women are invited to the PWOC Winter Retreat, February 17-19 at the Grand Mer Hotel. For more information, go to <http://home.attmil.ne.jp/a/p/woc2>.



KADENA SPOTLIGHTS

Congratulations to the following Team Kadena Quarterly Award winners for the fourth quarter of 2005:

- Civilian, Category I - **Toshikazu Gima**
- Civilian, Category II - **Isamu Yagi**
- Civilian, Category III - **Cheryl Alakai**
- Airman, Honor Guard - **Airman 1st Class SueAnn Silpot**
- NCO, Honor Guard - **Staff Sgt. Tina Davis**
- Airman - **Airman 1st Class Brandon Fleming**
- NCO - **Tech. Sgt. Thuan Treon**
- Senior NCO - **Master Sgt. Michael Clayton**
- Company Grade Officer - **1st Lt. John Weiss**

Congratulations to the following 2005 Pacific Air Forces Medical Service Award winners:

- Clinical Excellence Award, Field Grade Officer Category - **Maj. Jay Kerecman**
- Fred Coleman Award, Pharmacy Company Grade Officer of the Year - **Capt. Tamy Leung**
- Outstanding Bioenvironmental Engineering Senior NCO of the Year - **Master Sgt. Valeria Richardson**
- Outstanding Biomedical Equipment Repair Senior NCO of the Year - **Master Sgt. Arthur House**
- Medical Logistics Senior NCO of the Year - **Master Sgt. Benito Wood**
- Laboratory Senior NCO of the Year - **Master Sgt. James Green**
- Independent Duty Medical Technician Senior NCO of the Year - **Master Sgt. Patrick Skiver**
- Col. Cleveland L. Parker Award - Public Health Senior NCO of the Year - **Tech. Sgt. Ronald Hay**
- NCO Pharmacy Technician of the Year - **Tech. Sgt. Diane Patton**
- Outstanding Bioenvironmental Engineering NCO of the Year - **Staff Sgt. Andrew Wells**
- Aerospace Physiology Airman of the Year - **Senior Airman Jeremiah Rodriguez**
- Outstanding Biomedical Equipment Repair Airman of the Year - **Senior Airman Scott Hatch**
- Aerospace Medicine Expeditionary Operations/Readiness Airman of the Year - **Senior Airman Jamie Slate**
- Outstanding Resource Management Airman of the Year - **Airman 1st Class Deasha Kernodle**
- Field Grade Aerospace Physiologist of the Year - **Lt. Col. Paul Gardetto**
- Public Health Officer of the Year - **Capt. Philipp Lim**
- Aerospace Physiology Senior NCO of the Year - **Master Sgt. Joseph Duntelman**
- Outstanding Resource Management NCO of the Year - **Tech. Sgt. Robert Fives**
- Aerospace Physiology NCO of the Year - **Staff Sgt. Becky Hale**

Congratulations to the following 2005 Pacific Air Forces Safety award winners:

- Ground Unit Safety Representative of the Year - **Master Sgt. Billy Edwards**
- Weapons Safety Noncommissioned Officer of the Year - **Master. Sgt. Antonio Berry**

Congratulations to the following 2005 Pacific Air Forces Financial Management award winners:

- Civilian of the Year - **Kagetsu Motes**
- Nonappropriated Fund Financial Analyst Employee - **Cindy Willis**

The following individuals were awarded 2005 Pacific Air Forces Contracting awards:

- GS-12 and Above Civilian of the Year - **Emily Hertz**
- Contingency Company Grade Officer of the Year - **Capt. Larry Mercier**

Congratulations to the Self-Aid Buddy Care Hall of Fame nominees:

- 18th Maintenance Operations Squadron - **Tech. Sgts. Phillip Wright and Paul Rice**
- 44th Fighter Squadron - **Tech. Sgt. Ali Rivers and Staff Sgt. Raymond Garcia**
- 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron - **Master Sgt. Melanie White**
- 353rd Special Operations Group - **Tech. Sgt. Richard Hogan and Staff Sgt. Sixto Vargas**
- 18th Medical Group - **Staff Sgt. Jaime Slate and Staff Sgt. Darlene Poindexter**
- Best Comeback Award - 18th Comptroller Squadron, **Airmen 1st Class Megan Maney and Matthew Wester**



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Stephanie Sinclair
Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley, Pacific Air Forces command chief master sergeant, talks with Airmen from the First Term Airmen Center during a recent visit to Kadena.

PACAF command chief explains new uniform changes on horizon

By Senior Master Sgt.
Kenneth Fidler
18th Wing Public Affairs

Editor's Note: *Following is Part 2 of a 3-part series from a wide-ranging interview with Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley, command chief master sergeant for Pacific Air Forces. Chief McKinley visited Kadena Jan. 6-7. As the command chief, he advises the PACAF commander, Gen. Paul Hester, on enlisted issues. Last week, he talked about how the war on terror is the Air Force's #1 priority. In this second part, he discusses the new Airman Battle Uniform and the recent changes to the physical fitness uniform.*

Chief McKinley sported the Air Force's new Airman Battle Uniform during his two-day trip to Kadena, touting its comfort and ease of wear, and explained the recent changes to the physical fitness uniform.

"I personally love this uniform," he said of the new ABU. "The comfort level of this uniform is just fantastic."

He explained the best part about it: wash and wear. "... you put it in the washing machine, then put it in the dryer, take it out, ... put it on. You do not

have to iron it; you definitely do not starch it, and you don't have to take it to the cleaners. It's very comfortable, and I'm looking forward to getting it to clothing sales so all Airmen ... will have the opportunity to wear this great uniform."

He said it's possible the uniform will be available in fiscal year 2007, but it's not certain at this point.

He credited the wear-test process as the right way to bring about the new look. "I think a tremendous amount of thought has gone into this uniform. We weren't just issued a uniform and (were told) 'this is the uniform you're going to wear.'"

In 2003, the Air Force started testing a new utility uniform with a blue, gray and green "tiger stripe" camouflage pattern similar to that used by U.S. forces during the Vietnam War.

The wear test lasted for six months in 2004, and feedback resulted in toned down colors. "We looked at (the feedback) and found out the uniform wear-tested very well, but when we sent out the surveys, the Air Force responded and said 'we did not like the colors,'" Chief McKinley explained. "When you look at the uniform we now have, it's a success because this is what we've

asked for."

Physical fitness uniform

In November, the Air Force modified the standards for wearing the physical fitness uniform, relaxing some of the rules for comfort.

"Before, we had very strict guidelines as a uniform," Chief McKinley said. "This is really PT gear, so when you go to the gym and work out, you should be able to go there and wear exercise gloves, wear headsets, have your shirt untucked when running to be more comfortable. We've applied common sense to the wear of the PT gear."

Other changes include allowing the jacket to be zipped or unzipped and worn with civilian clothing; allowing black or navy blue spandex shorts and leggings to be worn under the shorts; and no hair restrictions for women.

Chief McKinley said he believes the Air Force will now start looking at the quality of the PT gear.

"In the end, we're going to have PT gear we can all wear and be proud of that's also going to be comfortable."

Next week: ZZ13 and the wingman culture.

Air Force leaders foresee personnel cuts in FY06

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne said a proposal aimed at reducing the number of Air Force total-force personnel has been discussed.

During a recent press conference, Secretary Wynne said the reduction would take effect across the total force -- active duty, Reserve, Guard and civilian positions. About 40,000 people would be trimmed starting in fiscal 2006 through 2011, he said.

Drawing down personnel is nothing new for the Air Force as it has reduced active-duty manpower through force shaping initiatives in the past two years to meet congressionally mandated end strength.

However, before any reductions take place, initiatives focused on bal-

ancing and reshaping the force would be the first step, said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley.

"Thirteen percent of the officer career fields are stressed ... 20 percent of the enlisted career fields are stressed," he said. "We have opportunities to move people into those stressed career fields and balance those across that entire spectrum."

Once the force is balanced then there will be opportunities to move to the Reserve component, the Guard, and Air Force civilian positions, General Moseley said.

"Our overall goal remains to have an effective and efficient Air Force on behalf of the taxpayer," Secretary Wynne said.

"As the Air Force looks at these personnel changes, it needs to determine the optimum size of organizations and number of Airmen needed across the broad spectrum of the force," said Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray.

"Congress mandates the number of generals, colonels, chief and senior master sergeants based on the size of the force. For example, chief master sergeants make up one percent and senior master sergeants make up two percent of the force; if the reduction of the active-duty enlisted force was 30,000, the results would be 300 less chief master sergeants to lead our organizations and Air Force specialties," Chief Murray said.

"We're not just going to cut out

the workers of the force," Chief Murray said. "We will shape the force throughout all the ranks, by organizations and [specialties] in order to maintain a strong force."

Any organization forced with cutting personnel faces hard decisions and the Air Force leadership is no exception.

"I will tell you that every one of the people [who] are in the Air Force or in the civilian workforce for the Air Force, have opted into the Air Force to provide value to us," Secretary Wynne said. "We want to make sure that we do everything in our power to manage this problem on a level that makes them proud to have been a part of the United States Air Force throughout their career."

Civilians get 2.1% raise

WASHINGTON -- The upcoming pay period for Defense Department civilian general schedule employees will reflect a 2.1 percent across-the-board pay raise.

It also includes a range of locality pays that bring the overall pay hikes to between 2.83 and 5.62 percent, an Office of Personnel Management spokesman said.

The 2006 federal pay raise goes into effect with the first full pay period of the year, which for most DOD employees begins Jan. 8, said Mike Orenstein.

President George W. Bush signed into law the legislation that provides for the federal pay raise on Nov. 30.

Pay charts on the OPM Web site show new annual and hourly rates for GS workers. Special geographically unique charts cover increases in 31 designated locality pay areas.

Wage-grade workers, who make up a small percentage of the DOD work force, will receive comparable increases for their areas, Mr. Orenstein said.

The GS workers not in a designated locality pay area come under the "rest of the United States" designation on the charts and will receive a 2.83 percent pay increase, Mr. Orenstein said.

The exception are GS workers in Alaska, Hawaii and U.S.

territories, who receive a non-foreign cost of living allowance that was first introduced in the mid-1940s to attract workers, he said.

Among GS workers in designated locality pay areas within the continental United States, those in the Raleigh-Durham-Cary, N.C., region are this year's biggest winners, receiving a 5.6 percent

increase, Mr. Orenstein said.

This is the first time this area is a designated locality pay area, and the 2006 pay hike is designed to help bring that region's salaries more on par with those offered in the private sec-

The 2006 federal pay raise goes into effect with the first full pay period of the year, which for most DOD employees began Jan. 8.

tor, he said.

Future pay hikes for the region are not likely to be as high.

Other locality pay areas to receive significant hikes this year are San Francisco-San Jose-Oakland, 3.95 percent; New York-Newark, 3.77 percent; Buffalo, 3.75 percent; Hartford, Conn., 3.62 percent; and the Washington-Baltimore-Northern Virginia region, 3.44 percent.

Locality pay is based not on the cost of living, but on the cost of labor in a particular area, Mr. Orenstein said.

By offering locality pay to workers in those regions, government agencies can be more competitive in recruiting and retaining qualified workers, he said.

4 million combat miles logged



Air Force/Master Sgt. Lance Cheung Staff Sgt. Lee Moses (right) teaches Army Spc. Thomas Brey how to dismount a 50-caliber machine gun from an armored truck turret at Balad Air Base, Iraq. The Airman and Soldier are with the 723rd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron. The unit reached its 4-millionth convoy mile. The first convoy began two years ago.

Andersen AFB: growing to meet its AF mission

By Master Sgt. Orville Desjarlais Jr.
Air Force Print News

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — The eyes of U.S. military leaders are once again focused here to provide peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

"The strategic importance of Andersen is rejuvenating," said Col. Michael Boera, the 36th Expeditionary Air Wing commander. "No longer is Andersen the sleepy hollow it's been known as after World War II and Vietnam."

In 1972, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, was the site of the one of the most massive buildups of airpower in history. More than 15,000 people and 154 B-52 Stratofortress bombers lined all available flightline space.

The Air Force is again building up the base.

Growth at Andersen AFB will include continued bomber and fighter rotations with the potential for beddown of permanent aircraft. Nearby Northwest Field is turning into an expeditionary combat support training area, while the north ramp may include facilities for fighters like the new F-22A Raptor. The south ramp will see the addition of the Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicle mission.

Pacific Air Forces commander Gen. Paul Hester said, "Growth on Guam is inevitable. It requires a lot of planning, and I have the utmost faith that the commander and senior leadership here are hard at work trying to determine the best way ahead."

There is a lot of planning going on.

The Air Force wants Andersen AFB to host squadrons of bombers, air refueling tankers and fighter/attack aircraft on a regular basis with the capability to ramp up if there is a threat in the Pacific.

That will most certainly come with an increase in the current population of 3,700 permanently assigned Airmen and Department of Defense civilian employees. The increase means the need for base housing and a robust infrastructure.

The Air Force is expanding the mission here because Guam is a strategic location that allows aircraft to be over "enemy" territory within a few hours versus many hours or days.

It is also valuable because as a United States territory, over-flight or landing rights are not required. During times of political uncertainty, the U.S. military always has permission to go to, and operate from, here.



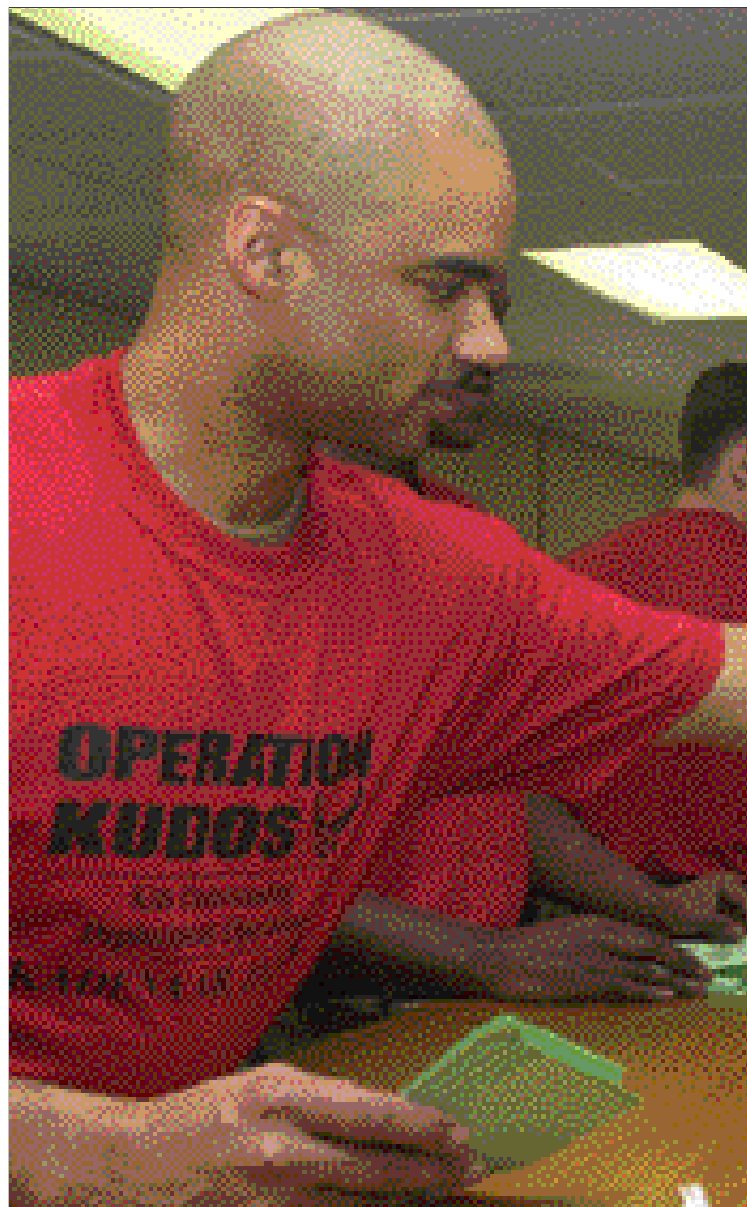
GOGGLES: Anthony Russell, Jr., 7, son of Marine Master Sgt. Anthony Russell, looks through night vision goggles during Operation KUDOS Saturday. The third KUDOS program allowed children to get a glimpse of the deployment process that their parents go through.

HUGS: Adam Siegal, 10, hugs his mother Anne Siegal, wife of Master Sgt. Sean Siegal of the 718th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, during his "welcome home" picnic after his Operation KUDOS deployment. Adam was among the 250 children in the Operation KUDOS program.



PAINT: Miquela Morris, 8, daughter of Staff Sgt. Daniel Morris from the 18th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department, gets her face painted by Airman 1st Class Tiffany Grant of the 18th Dental Squadron.

SAYWHAT?: Ashton Morris, 3, laughs as Staff Sgt. Kelvin Brantley, 718 AMXS, tells him that he has to call the chalk to attention before he can process into Bldg. 96000.



Abby Doyle, 3, held up by her father Staff Sgt. Joseph Doyle of the 961st Airborne Air C deployment line Saturday as part of Operation Kids Understanding Deployment Operation



STATIC: With five separate c and various other aircraft and tion KUDOS Saturday.

BUCKLINGUP: Civil Air Patr of Master Sgt. Edward Tenint helps Alexis Cordova, 3, dau buckle up into a KC-135 Strato



961st Airborne Air Control Squadron, receives fake bills from Staff Sgt. Erique Diggs, 18th Component Maintenance Squadron, while processing through a simulated deployment Operations. More than 150 volunteers helped with Operation KUDOS.



With five separate chalks of 50 children each, static displays of F-15 and other aircraft and equipment were out for viewing during Operation KUDOS Saturday.

ANGUP: Civil Air Patrol Cadet Jennifer Gonzalez-Teninty, 13, daughter of Staff Sgt. Edward Teninty of the 18th Maintenance Operations Squadron, exits Cordova, 3, daughter of Staff Sgt. Julian Cordova, 18th MOS, climbs into a KC-135 Stratotanker during Operation KUDOS.

More than 250 children 'deploy'

Story and photos
by Staff Sgt.
Chyrece Campbell
18th Wing Public Affairs

"Atten-Hut!," yelled the chalk #3 first sergeant as Col. Thomas Marshall, 18th Dental Squadron, exited the room after briefing "deployers" in Bldg. 96000.

Seems normal, but the first sergeant was 13-year-old Marcus White, son of Tech. Sgt. Jessis White, and the chalk #3 deployers ranged from ages 3 to 15.

No, the draft hasn't been reimplemented. The scene was part of a special program called Kids Under-

stand Deployment Operations (KUDOS).

For a third year, KUDOS helped educate military children about the deployment process many of their parents endure.

"This program is to help relieve some of the children's anxiety by seeing what their parents go through on a smaller scale," said Tech. Sgt. Tammy Stiles, KUDOS coordinator.

"This year my husband will be deployed for an air expeditionary force deployment for the first time and I wanted my son, Adam, to understand what will happen," said Anne Siegal, wife

of Master Sgt. Sean Siegal, 718th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

More than 150 people volunteered from several military units, Civil Air Patrol and private organizations.

"It was great to have the Civil Air Patrol cadets be able to help out with KUDOS," said Curtis Don-doyano, Civil Air Patrol Cadet Commander and son of Master Sgt. Ignacio Don-doyano of the 18th Communications Squadron.

The event was capped off with a welcome home picnic sponsored by the United Services Organization.



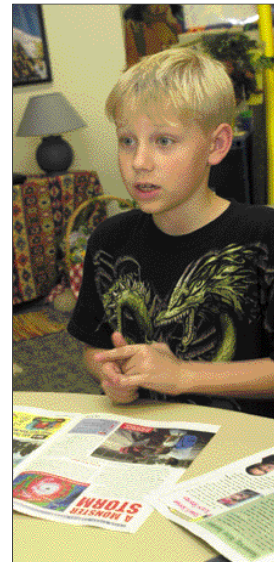
Michelle Singleton, Bob Hope Elementary School's Read 180 teacher, reads poems to her third grade class. The Read 180 program is the only one of its kind being taught on Okinawa and is designed to help children develop and enhance their reading skills in preparation for upper grade levels.



READING: Amber White, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Phuong White, reads quietly during self-paced reading time.

TESTING: Destini Hines, daughter of Staff Sgt. Kelly Johnson, adjusts her volume as Jeran Murphy, son of Tech. Sgt. John Murphy, takes a reading comprehension test.

DIDYOUKNOW?: Tyler Powers, son of Tech. Sgt. Michael Powers, explains his experience with flood waters with a text-to-self connection.



School's 'Read 180' program helps hone vital skill

Story and photos
by Staff Sgt.
Chyrece Campbell
18th Wing Public Affairs

More than 25 third grade students at Bob Hope Elementary School are making a 180 degree turn with their reading.

Since August 2004, Bob Hope Elementary School has been teaching 'Read 180,' a

program to help children with their reading abilities, comprehension and spelling.

"Studies have shown that some of the problems that children are having in upper grades are due to reading skills which aren't developed in the earlier grades," said Michelle Singleton, Bob Hope Elementary School teacher.

The program was devel-

oped in 1985 by Dr. Ted Haselbring of Vanderbilt University.

It is designed to directly address individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature and direct instruction in reading and vocabulary skills.

It has been used in private schools for more than a

decade.

For 90 minutes a day this program, with the aid of Mrs. Singleton, allows children to get a better reading foundation.

"The 'Read 180' program is not used as a replacement, but as a supplement," said Mrs. Singleton. "The children do not miss math or reading classes, but are taken out of electives."

'Read 180' combats any

potential problems by incorporating similar lessons learned in other areas and focusing those interests into a reading program, said Mrs. Singleton.

"Mrs. Singleton is doing an outstanding job with this program, said Bud Isles, Bob Hope Elementary School principal. "The results are evident in the reading results of the children after the program."

Clowning around on Kids Membership Night



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Chyrece Campbell

Maria Ware, 5, daughter of Master Sgt. Russel Ware of the 18th Dental Squadron, receives her prize from "JoJo the Clown" during Kids Appreciation Night at the Rocker NCO Club. More than 250 children and their parents attended the event which featured a live band, bouncy castles, food, games and prizes.

Today

BANYAN TREE : Almost Nuts Band will play from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.
• Mainstream and urban beats from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

• Flashback Fridays from 8 to 10 p.m. in the lounge.
• Latin, salsa and reggae music from 10 p.m. to close.
• Social hour from 6 to 8 p.m.
EMERY LANES : Thunder Bowl from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

ITT TOURS : Taste of the Town Tour. For more information call ITT at 634-4322.

ROCKER NCO CLUB: Deja Vu hits from 5 to 7 p.m.
• Variety dance hits from 7 p.m. to close.
• All the best of the 80s and 90s from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. in the lounge.

Saturday

BANYAN TREE : Almost Nuts Band will play from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

• Latin, salsa, and reggae from 10 p.m. until close in the ballroom.

• Hip-hop from 8 p.m. to close in the lounge.

ITT TOURS : Tunnel Rats Tour. For more information call ITT at 634-4322.

ROCKER NCO CLUB: Super Ladies Night from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.
• Easy Listening Jazz

from 7 p.m. to close.

Sunday

BANYAN TREE : Juke Box Jams from 7 to 10 p.m.
EMERY LANES : Family Day from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Games are \$1 each.

ITT TOURS : Tangerine Picking Tour and Explore the North Tour. For more information call ITT at 634-4322.

ROCKER NCO CLUB : Best of old and new variety from 7 p.m. to close.

Monday

BANYAN TREE : Juke Box Jams from 7 p.m. to close.

• Social hour from 6 to 8 p.m.
ROCKERNCO CLUB: Classic to modern rock music selections from 7 to 11 p.m.

Tuesday

BANYAN TREE: Football Frenzy from 7 p.m. to close.

• Pool tournament begins at 7 p.m.

• Social hour from 6 to 8 p.m.

ROCKERNCO CLUB : Football Frenzy from 7 to 11 p.m.

ITT TOURS : Southern 100 Yen Shopping Tour. For more information call ITT at 634-4322.

Wednesday

BANYAN TREE: Ladies night from 8 to 11 p.m.

• Dart tournament at 7 p.m.

• Social hour from 6 to 8 p.m.
ROCKER NCO CLUB: Jazz from 5 to 8 p.m.
• Ladies Night from 8 p.m. to close.
EMERY LANES: Games are 50 cents each from 5 to 11 p.m.

Thursday

BANYAN TREE : Country music from 7 to 11 p.m. Line dance lessons at 7 p.m.

ITT TOURS : Fine arts and Museums Tour. For more information call ITT at 634-4322.

EMERY LANES: Pay \$5 and bowl as many games as possible between 9 and 11 p.m.

Jan. 27

BANYAN TREE : Mainstream and urban beats from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

• Flashback Fridays from 8 to 10 p.m. in the lounge.

• Latin, salsa and reggae music from 10 p.m. to close.

• Social hour from 6 to 8 p.m.

EMERY LANES: Thunder Bowl from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

ITT TOURS : Tangerine picking tour and Nago cherry blossom festival. For more information call ITT at 634-4322.

ROCKER NCO CLUB: Deja Vu hits from 5 to 7 p.m.

• Variety dance hits from 7 p.m. to close.

• All the best 80s and 90s music from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. in the lounge.

Jan. 28

BANYAN TREE : Latin, salsa, and reggae from 10 p.m. until close in the ballroom.

• Hip-hop from 8 p.m. to close in the lounge.

ITT TOURS : Tangerine Picking Tour and Nago Cherry Blossum Festival Tour. For more information, call ITT at 634-4322.

ROCKER NCO CLUB: Super Ladies Night from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

• Easy listening jazz from 7 p.m. to close.

Jan. 29

BANYAN TREE : Juke Box Jams from 7 to 10 p.m.

EMERY LANES : Family Day from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Games are \$1 each.

ITT TOURS : Battle of Okinawa tour and Nago cherry blossom festival.

M O V I E S

Patrons should call Keystone Theater at 634-1869 or Butler Theater at 645-3465 to verify movie titles, showtimes and ratings.

* First Run shows are marked by an asterisk.

Keystone Theater

- ▲ Friday..... *Fun with Dick and Jane, PG-13, 6 p.m.
*Chronicles of Narnia, PG, 9 p.m.
- ▲ Saturday.... *Chronicles of Narnia, PG, noon
*Fun with Dick and Jane, PG-13, 4 p.m.
Yours, Mine and Ours, PG, 7 p.m.
- ▲ Sunday..... *Chronicles of Narnia, PG, noon
*Fun with Dick and Jane, R, 4 p.m.
Yours, Mine and Ours, PG, 7 p.m.
- ▲ Monday..... *Fun with Dick and Jane, PG-13, 7 p.m.
- ▲ Tuesday..... *Chronicles of Narnia, PG, 7 p.m.
- ▲ Wednesday.. *Chronicles of Narnia, PG, 7 p.m.
- ▲ Thursday.... *Casanova, R, 7 p.m.

Butler Theater

- ▲ Friday..... *Casanova, R, 7 p.m.
Get Rich or Die Trying, R, 7 p.m.
- ▲ Saturday.... Chicken Little, G, 1 p.m.
Yours, Mine and Ours, PG, 4 p.m.
*Casanova, R, 7 p.m.
*Casanova, R, 10 p.m.

C H A P E L

Catholic

- ▲ Monday through Friday : Mass, Chapel 2, noon.
- ▲ Saturday : Confession, Chapel 2, 8:30 to 4:30 a.m.
Vigil Mass, Chapel 2, 5 p.m.
- ▲ Sunday : Mass, Chapel 3, 8:45 a.m.
Mass, Chapel 1, 12:30 and 5 p.m.

Protestant

- ▲ Wednesday : Bible Study, Chapel 2, 7 p.m.
- ▲ Sunday : Inspirational, Chapel 2, 8:30 a.m.
Liturgical, Chapel 3, 8:45 a.m.
Evangelical, Chapel 1, 9 a.m.
Traditional, Chapel 2, 10:30 a.m.
Gospel, Chapel 3, 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school, Bldg. 327, 8:45 & 10:45 a.m.
- ▲ Contemporary worship : Sundays, Chapel 1, 7:30 p.m.
- ▲ Eastern Orthodox services : Call 645-7486
- ▲ Jewish services : Call 637-1027
- ▲ Islamic services : Call 636-3219

Cherry blossoms blossom into tradition

By Master Sgt.
Adam Johnston
18th Wing Public Affairs

Only in Japan can looking at flowers become a national pastime. But, for sightseers looking for a unique once-a-year experience, cherry blossom viewing – or *hana-mi* – may just be the outing every family member can enjoy.

"The cherry blossom – *sakura* – is Japan's unofficial national flower," said Kiyoshi Ikehata of the 18th Civil Engineer Group. "It has been celebrated for many centuries and takes a very prominent position in Japanese culture. They're beautiful."

Because of its subtropical climate, Okinawa is home to Japan's first cherry tree blooms in late January and early February. On Honshu – or mainland Japan – the season peaks in late March and early April. It ends in Hokkaido in late May.

Military families stationed in Okinawa don't have to wait until spring to view this unique aspect of life in Japan.

The Yaedake Cherry Blossom Festival begins Saturday and ends Feb. 12. The event is held above a winding road lined with some 7,000 cherry trees on Mount Yaedake near



Courtesy photo

Cherry blossoms along Mount Yaedake paint the sky pink as tourists take in the scenery in northern Okinawa.

Motobu Town in northern Okinawa.

"Almost every year I go with my family to view the cherry blossoms," said Takashi Matsuda, a legal advisor with the 18th Wing's judge advocate office. "I normally drive through the mountain pass, park at the top of the hill, eat lunch, enjoy the view and take pictures," he said. "For us, it's a real family outing."

A cherry blossom festival will also be held Jan. 28 and 29 at the Nago Castle Park and other areas of Nago City that include the Miss Cherry Blossom Pageant, a parade, karaoke contests and the typical food booth fare of Japanese vendors.

But while the festivals may look similar, there are differences between blossoms in Honshu and here and the way Okinawans view *hana-mi*.

"Okinawan cherry blossoms are different," said Mr. Matsuda. "Ours are kind of reddish. In mainland, they're kind of pink," he said.

There are more than 400 different varieties of cherry

trees in Japan. The most popular type in Okinawa is the *Hikan Zakura*. Unlike cherry trees in the United States, the Japanese cherry tree typically does not yield fruit.

"Mainland Japanese view *sakura* as the coming of spring and an end to the winter season," said Mr. Ikehata. "They have a little party where they eat and drink underneath the cherry blossoms," he said. "Because Okinawa doesn't have a severe winter season, we don't really do that," he said.

Akiko Yona, a budget technician, 18th CEG, agreed. "Okinawan people really don't celebrate cherry blossom viewing as much as people do in mainland Japan. Winter is severe in mainland, so cherry blossom viewing is really a celebration of the spring," she said.

Noriyuki Hayashi, a training technician, 18th CEG, said he thinks the timing for cherry blossom viewing is off in Okinawa compared to mainland Japan. "When I worked in Tokyo, it was mandatory to attend *hana-mi* because it

was a company event," he said. "The biggest difference in cherry blossom viewing is seasonal timing," he said. "Generally people are hired in April at a Japanese company, so *hana-mi* is the first time people can meet outside of an office setting. That's probably why it's a bigger deal there than it is here," he said.

Another difference between the cherry blossoms of Okinawa and mainland Japan is the shelf-life. Blink your eyes in mainland and you can miss *hana-mi* season as the pink and white petals quickly fall within days of blooming.

In Okinawa, the season can last up to a month.

But the initial blooms – no matter where in Japan – are tied to Mother Nature's bidding and don't always follow the precise timing of festival or event schedules.

"The best time to go is really at the end of January or the beginning of February," said Mr. Matsuda. "We probably won't go until the end of the month to soak in the view. But it's definitely something unusual to do."

Ask Oba-chan



"Ask Oba-chan" (Grand-ma) is a forum for readers to ask Japanese cultural

questions. To submit a question, send an e-mail to: kadenashogun.newspaper@kadena.af.mil with the subject line – ASK OBA-CHAN

Am I being insulted when someone refers to me as Gaijin?

Maybe, but probably not. Like any descriptive term, it can be used as an insult, but only the tone of voice would indicate such, because the term itself is not intended to be insulting in most settings. *Gaijin* is a shortened form of the word *Gai-Koku-Jin*, which literally means "a person from outside of the country."

Japan is often referred to as having a highly ethnocentric society. For the first 3,000 years or so of their history, the Japanese did not have any word for themselves. Everyone was simply a "countryman." When the first foreigners were encountered, the language had to be adapted to account for them. Thus, two broad categories came about – countrymen and non-countrymen or, more specifically, countrymen and those from outside of the country.

Can you imagine what it must have been like to spend thousands of years not knowing there were other people in the world...and then meeting one? The shock of such radical change was so great that the first Tokugawa Shogun decided to close all Japan to *Gai-Koku-Jin* – to keep them from corrupting Japan. For economic reasons, he allowed the port of Nagasaki to be a trading port, but most of Japan once again became a closed, very ethnocentric society. And people were taught that the *Gaijin* were not to be trusted.

That, of course, has changed, with much of the change beginning during the Meiji Era (1868 - 1912), but thousands of years of ethnocentricity doesn't evaporate in only a century or so. Therefore, to us, when we refer to you as a *Gaijin*, what we are really saying is that you are not Japanese – you are not one of us. Hopefully, that is not said with the intention of insulting you.

How to get there



Courtesy photo

Take Highway 58 north, or take the Okinawa Toll Road to the last exit -- Nago, then get onto Highway 58. Drive through Nago; turn left onto Highway 84 and follow the signs to Mount Yaedake.

The Okinawa Perspective

The following is a synopsis of articles that appeared recently in Japanese newspapers.

- Japan and the United States plan to conduct a joint test of a Japanese-developed technology for an advanced interceptor missile as part of a project to build a ballistic missile defense system, sources familiar with the program said Sunday. The missile will be deployed on Aegis-class Navy destroyers.

- The leader of U.S. Forces Japan apologized Jan. 11 to Japanese defense officials after an American Sailor allegedly beat a Japanese

woman to death during a robbery attempt Jan. 3, the Japanese Defense Agency said. Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright, USFJ commander, conveyed his "deep apologies" over the alleged killing by Sailor William Oliver Reese near the U.S. naval base in Yokosuka, according to a defense official.

- U.S. officials are offering a \$2,000 reward for information about the robbery of a taxi driver that occurred inside Camp Foster Jan. 7. A base community paper and radio broadcast reportedly announced the reward Jan. 13. The "unusual" move reflects a "sense of crisis" on

the part of the military about the increasing number of crimes and incidents involving U.S. military personnel.

- The Japanese Defense Agency director general said Sunday that he would ask Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, during a scheduled meeting in the United States, to make efforts to reduce the burden on Okinawa and other base-hosting communities. "I will ask the United States to make certain concessions as well, and then I would like to put everything in good shape as a whole," he told reporters in Washington, referring to the realignment of U.S. forces in Japan.



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Chyrece Campbell

And 1...and 2...

Missy Cornish, Risner Fitness Center instructor, leads her Turbo-Kick class at the fitness center Jan. 12. Turbo-Kick combines high-impact aerobics and martial arts moves. The class is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The Risner Fitness Center offers a variety of classes every day except Sunday. For more information call 634-5128.

Intramural basketball season begins

Eight of 26 teams remain undefeated after week 2

By Staff Sgt. Jason Lake
18th Wing Public Affairs



Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Chyrece Campbell

(Clockwise from above)

INTHEPAINT: Robert Hobbs, 18th Communications Squadron "B" Team, tries to pass the ball to Rogelio Canez, #52, while Christopher Perez and Ivory Carter, from the 18th Civil Engineer Squadron "B" Team, try to make a steal during an intramural matchup Jan. 12 at the Risner Fitness Center.

STUFFED: With his team trailing by 20 points, Rogelio Canez, 18th CS (B), blocks a shot from Ernest Chapko, 18th CES (B).

DIVE: Nicholas Gray, (left) 18th CS (B), and Derrick Smith, 18th CES (B), dive for the ball before it goes out-of-bounds. The 18th CES (B) team beat 18 CS (B), 44-21.



Twenty-six teams kicked off the intramural basketball season with a bang last week.

In the first week of the season many of the teams fought hard to earn their first win. Two of this week's battles ended at the last basket.

Last year's intramural champions, the 18th Services Squadron, were cut down by the 18th Civil Engineer Squadron (B) in the final seconds with a score of 66-64. The 18th Contracting Squadron also squeaked by in the final seconds of play against the 18th Aerospace Medicine Squadron.

"The game of the week was between 18th AMDS and 18th CONS," explained intramural sports director Senior Airman Kedist Burnett. "It was a great game that came down to the wire with 18th CONS coming out on top with a score of 64-62."

Another battle ended much earlier.

The 18th EMS (A) blew out the 390th Intelligence Squadron, 66-19.

As of Monday afternoon, eight teams remained undefeated after the first 10 days of the season. The undefeated teams include: 18th Operations Support Squadron, 909th Air Refueling Squadron, 18th Maintenance Operations Squadron, 353rd Operations Support Squadron, 18th CES (B), 554th Red Horse Squadron, 18th Communications Squadron (A) and 18th Component Maintenance Squadron.

"These are the teams to watch this season," said Airman Burnett.

Spectators interested in watching their team in action can come out to the former Falcon Fitness Center Monday through Thursday or Risner Fitness Center Tuesday and Wednesday between 5:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.